

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-8 and 10 are considered in the Office action.

Claims 1-8 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Hagiunda et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,182,225 ("Hagiunda") in view of Jarrad U.S. Patent No. 6,047,197 ("Jarrad").

Summary Of Applicants' Response

Applicants have amended claim 1 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention.

Reply

Claims 1-8 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Hagiunda in view of Jarrad

Claim 1 recites a printing system including a network, a plurality of output printing devices coupled to the network, an application connected to the network, the application adapted to receive and display the status information of all of the output printing devices, and a user interface in communication with the application, the user interface including a toolset selector comprising first and second positions, the user interface adapted to display a print job interface when the toolset selector is in the first position, and display an output printing device interface when the toolset selector is in the second position. Neither Hagiunda nor Jarrad, alone or combined, describe or suggest the claimed invention.

Hagiunda describes a network that includes local area network 100, printers 102, 105 and 109, personal computers 103 and 104, and file server 106. (Col. 10, line 60 through Col. 11, line 4-12; FIG. 1). Network management software (alternatively referred to as "NetSpot") operates on personal computer 103, and is capable of displaying a device list window that lists information about certain devices connected to the network. (Col. 14, lines 32-34; Col. 15, lines 15-18; Col. 16, lines 1-4; Col. 23, lines 12-14; Col. 79, lines 22-24; FIG. 15). Significantly, the device list window does not display information about all connected devices. Instead, the device

list window only displays information regarding devices that: (1) include an agent program that runs as a background process on the device; (2) maintain a management information database (referred to as "MIB") that has a specific structure; and (3) use an object identifier specifically assigned to the Canon Corporation (the "Canon-MIB"). (Col. 23, lines 15-48; Col. 13, lines 14-18; Col. 12, line 27 through Col. 13, line 12). Indeed, Hagiunda expressly states that:

Devices shown on NetSpot are only network devices implemented for SNMP/Canon-MIB. . . . Network devices other than this cannot be displayed. . . . Further, devices not triggered by [the] network protocol used by NetSpot are also not displayed.

(Col. 23, lines 43-48) (emphasis added).

Thus, unlike the claimed invention, Hagiunda does not describe or suggest a printing system including an application adapted to receive and display the status information of all of the output printing devices. Instead, Hagiunda points away from the claimed invention by limiting the device list window to display some, but not all, networked devices.

In addition, the combination of Hagiunda and Jarrad does not describe or suggest the claimed invention. In particular, Jarrad describes a cellular telephone 10 that allows a user to select a display mode of operation using mode selector 82. (Col. 3, lines 66-67). In a first display mode of operation, display driver 62 displays a plurality of rows and columns of icons on display 30. (Col. 3, line 67 through Col. 4, line 4; FIG. 2). In a second mode of operation, display driver 62 displays a column of icons and a corresponding column of text which defines a specified function or application that is performed whenever the corresponding icon is selected. (Col. 4, lines 4-9; FIG. 3). Whether cellular telephone 10 operates in the first or second mode of operation depends on the selected state of mode selector 82. (Col. 4, lines 9-12).

The Office action has not identified any plausible suggestion or motivation to combine Hagiunda, which pertains to networked printing systems, with Jarrad, which pertains to cellular telephone displays. Even if there were a suggestion or motivation to combine the two unrelated references, it is unclear, what, if anything, would result from the combination. Indeed, the combination of Hagiunda and Jarrad seemingly would be a cellular telephone 10 that implements network management software, or network

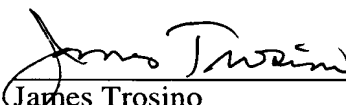
management software that provides information to a cellular telephone display. Even if this were somehow possible, the claimed invention would not result.

Because neither Hagiunda nor Jarrad, alone or combined, describe or suggest the claimed invention, applicants respectfully request that the § 103(a) rejections of amended independent claim 1 be withdrawn. Because all other claims depend from claim 1, applicants respectfully request that the § 103(a) rejections of claims 1-8 and 10 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, applicants submit that this application, including claims 1-8 and 10, is allowable. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner allow this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James Trosino", is written over a horizontal line.

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